

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Washington, D.C. 20520

9/4/80
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September 4, 1980

Dear []

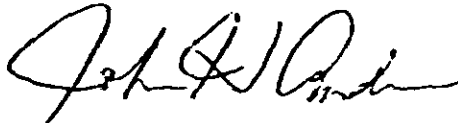
I am replying to your letter of August 11 to Mr. Hamilton Jordan concerning the imprisonment in Argentina of Debora Benshoam, Isaac Rudnick, Lilitana Ross, and Haydee Altmann.

The Department of State has been aware of the detention of Debora Benshoam and Isaac Rudnick for some time. Our Embassy in Buenos Aires has made several representations on their behalf, and we have asked that a U.S. Consular Officer be permitted to visit them.

As regards the disappearance of Haydee Altmann and Lilitana Ross, our Embassy submitted their names to the Argentine Foreign Ministry's Working Group on Human Rights, but it was informed that the Argentine Government had no record of their arrest or detention nor any information as to their whereabouts.

We have asked our Embassy to follow-up on these cases and to inform you should any information become available. The Department of State remains very concerned about human rights abuses in Argentina and will continue to press Argentine officials for information concerning the many thousands who have been arrested or have disappeared.

Sincerely,



John H. Andre
International Relations Officer
Office of Southern Cone Affairs

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

() Release (X) Excise () Deny

Exemption(s): b6

Declassify: () In Part () In Full

() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to

Date Declassify on Reason